U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/942,582 Amendment dated February 9, 2004 Reply to OA of October 17, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

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Claim 1 (original): An electronic locker system comprising:

a locker for housing luggage;

a reading means for electrically reading a depositor identifier that has been preliminarily determined by a contract between a managing company of the locker and a user of the locker;

an electronic lock for locking the door of the locker after luggage has been deposited therein; and

a central control unit which, when the depositor identifier read by the reading means is a depositor identifier preliminary determined by a contract between a managing company of the locker and a user of the locker, sends information of the corresponding depositor to a locker managing center through a communication line, and when, at the time of taking out the luggage, the depositor identifier read by said reading means is identified as said depositor identifier preliminary determined by the contract, releases the electric lock and sends necessary information such as a luggage deposit fee to the locker managing center through the communication line,

wherein the luggage depositing process and luggage taking-out process to and from the locker are carried out based upon only the depositor identifier.

Claim 2 (original): The electronic locker system according to claim 1, wherein the luggage deposit fee is automatically drawn from the account of the depositor based upon the depositor identifier that has been determined by the contract between the managing company and the user of the locker.

Claim 3 (original): An electronic locker system comprising:

a locker for housing luggage;

a reading means for electrically reading a depositor identifier and a receiver identifier that have been preliminarily determined by a contract between a managing company of the locker and a user of the locker;

operation keys through which a luggage receiver inputs a specific number such as a member identification number, etc.;

an electronic lock for locking the door of the locker after luggage has been deposited therein; and

a central control unit which, based upon the depositor identifier and the receiver identifier read by the reading means, sends information of the corresponding depositor and receiver to a locker managing center through a communication line, and when a read receiver identifier has been confirmed as the identifier of the corresponding luggage receiver, opens

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the electric lock and sends necessary information such as a luggage deposit fee to the locker managing center through the communication line,

wherein the luggage depositing process and luggage taking-out process to and from the locker are carried out based upon only the identifier.

Claim 4 (original): The electronic locker system according to claim 3, wherein only a designated individual within a registered group specified by the specific number is allowed to receive the luggage.

Claim 5 (original): The electronic locker system according to claim 3, wherein any one of users of a registered group specified by the specific number is allowed to receive the luggage.

Claim 6 (original): The electronic locker system according to any one of claims 3 to 5, wherein the luggage deposit fee is automatically drawn from the account of the depositor based upon the depositor identifier and the receiver identifier that have been determined by the contract between the managing company and the user of the locker.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The electronic locker system according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the luggage deposit fee is calculated based upon an actual lapse of time from the depositing process to the taking-out process.